

symptoms disappeared gradually, but five months after the onset the patient still has observable weakness of memory and intelligence. The aphasia was due to thrombosis, favored by the puerperal state and provoked by inflammatory lesions of the middle ear.

In the fourth case, eight days after delivery there appeared right hemiplegia, with aphasia and inability to protrude the tongue. Temperature normal. Intelligence seemed to be preserved. No abdominal or cardiac complications. Six weeks after confinement death occurred. In this case labor had been easy, but lactation had been excessive; and in the absence of cardiac or rheumatic symptoms, the cerebral accidents are to be attributed rather to thrombosis than embolism.

In all there are sixteen cases of aphasia reported, and of these three proved fatal. In certain cases the aphasia may be nervous in origin, neuropathic, or hysterical. In other cases it depends on albuminuria or uræmia. In nearly one-half the cases it coexists with right hemiplegia, and depends on thrombosis or embolism.

Having occurred in one pregnancy, it is liable to re-occur in the next. It usually appears about the first week after delivery.

A CASE OF PUERPERAL BONE SOFTENING CURED BY CASTRATION.

HARAJEWICZ (*Wiener medizinische Presse*, 1893, No. 27) reports an interesting case of successful removal of the ovaries for the cure of puerperal bone-softening. The patient had had ten children, and was in her eleventh pregnancy when she began to have severe pains in the loins, back, and hips. Her twelfth pregnancy was attended by more severe and continuous suffering; all the bones of the body except the face became acutely tender, and coughing caused intense pain. No visceral disease could be found; the urine was normal. The deformity of the pelvis and skeleton generally was now marked; there was no ovarian tenderness, and no uterine disease. The operation was performed under strict antiseptic precautions; both ovaries were removed and found to be normal. Complete and permanent relief from pain at once ensued, and after three months the patient left for her home. The bones were hardened, but crooked. Should this condition develop during pregnancy, it is probably best to empty the uterus; and, if it continue, castration may follow, or a Cæsarean section may be made at once, the ovaries being removed at the same time.

TWO EPIDEMICS OF AFEBRILE ICTERUS NEONATORUM WITH HÆMOGLOBINURIA (WINCKEL'S DISEASE).

WOLCZYNSKI (*Internationale klinische Rundschau*, 1893, No. 28) reports the results of his experiences in two epidemics of the above. Numerous post-mortem examinations revealed subpleural extravasations in the lung parenchyma, with thrombi in the vessels. The same condition was to be found in the liver and spleen, the former being in a state of fatty degeneration. In all these thrombic masses, or in effused blood, the characteristic bacilli were to be found. The kidney was the seat of a subcapsular extravasation; pigment masses and rods were also present. Cultures made from the above in living animals were followed by death in from twelve to seventy-two

hours. In the urine were found Teichmann's crystals, red corpuscles, coloring matter, and bile pigment.

The writer believes the disease to be the result of the introduction into the child's system of the bacterium coli communis; the mode of introduction in this instance was probably by washing the children's mouths with water from foul sources. The bacterium was found in the water of the well used, and the substitution of sterilized borated water was followed by a cessation of cases.

In 1892 six children were attacked with the disease, and all died.

In 1893 the same number had the disease, with a mortality of five. The other case recovered.

BACTERIA IN HUMAN MILK.

RINGEL (*Münchener medicinische Wochenschrift*, 1893, No. 27) contributes the report of a series of investigations upon the bacteria found in human milk. Various observers had reported having found the staphylococcus aureus and albus, as well as the streptococcus, both in healthy milk and in that from mothers suffering from puerperal fever. Escherich examined 25 women. Of these, 24 specimens were sterile and 1 contained bacilli. He again examined 13 with puerperal fever, and found staphylococcus in 12; 4 being of the white and yellow variety intermixed; 8 the white only, and 1 of an uncertain form. Cohn and Neumann experimented on 43 cases of milk from healthy women, and found 36 containing staphylococcus albus, 1 staphylococcus aureus and pyogenes, 3 staphylococcus pyogenes albus and streptococcus pyogenes; in 2 all the above forms were united.

The writer made a series of investigations, drawing and using milk from the deeper parts of the breast only, the experiments being made under the strictest antiseptic precautions. The milk was taken from 12 healthy and 13 unhealthy patients.

The results were as follows: 3 specimens were sterile; 17 specimens contained staphylococcus pyogenes albus; 2 specimens contained staphylococcus pyogenes aureus; 1 specimen contained staphylococcus pyogenes albus and aureus; 2 specimens contained staphylococcus pyogenes albus and streptococcus pyogenes.

An examination of the mouths of nursing infants revealed corresponding bacteria in their secretions.

TREATMENT OF ECLAMPSIA.

CHARPENTIER (*Archives de Tocologie*, 1893, p. 509), in a collection of 454 cases from various sources, gives his results as follows: Children dead before or during labor 164, or 36.12 per cent.; maternal mortality 110, or 24.88 per cent. His conclusions are as follows:

1. Every pregnant woman who is albuminuric is exposed to eclampsia. Consequently, we should examine the urine of all women during the period of gestation, and if the least trace of albumin be found, they should at once be placed on an absolute milk diet. Milk is, above all, the best preventive of eclampsia.

2. Whenever one deals with an eclamptic, if she be strong, vigorous, and